# THE MARINE MERCURY.

OR,

A true relation of the ſtrange appearance of a Man-fiſh about three miles within the River of Thames, having a Musket in one hand, and a Petition in the other.

Credibly

Reported by ſix Saylors, who both ſaw and talkt with the Monſter, whoſe names here following are inſerted.

Whereunto is added

*A Relation how Sir* Simon Heartley *with his Company gave battell to a company of Rebels, and ſlew 500. tooke 4. Colours, and routed 1500. more: this being performed on the 6. of January. 1641.*

The Saylors names.

*Nicholas Trundcrow.* *Hamfrey Hearnſhaw.* *Sim. Seamanle.*
*Joſias Otter.* *Alexander Waterrat.* *Tim. Bywater.*

Written by *John Hare*, Gent.

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# The ſtrange Relation of the appearance of a Man-fiſh, armed, comming towards LONDON.

## *Reported by ſix Saylors, who converſed with him the beſt part of an houre.*

THere is ſcarce any man of noble and generous quality, (if they would ſtrive to be compleat in the higheſt degree) but may be perfected by travell, which is the true ſalt and ſeaſon of a Gentleman. Now there is none ſo qualified, and hath ſeen the wonders of the deep, that can thinke this ſtory impoſſible, for there are not ſo many ſtrange creatures by land, but there are farre ſtranger by water; nor any reſemblance of any beaſt upon earth, but the ſea produces the like for ſhape and lineaments, which cannot admit of the leaſt contradiction, but to the ignorant, and thoſe that will beleeve no further then their weake ſight can diſcerne.



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This ſtory was written by a Gentleman from the mouthes of theſe men, which certainly could not be deluded by any ſhadow or phantaſme, being hardy and ſpiritfull perſons, though of a coorſe and rough converſation; the ſenſe and truth of the relation is not altered: as they did deliver it, it is here ſet downe, onely dreſt in better language for the delight of the Reader; which was thus.

The third day after the guarding of the worthy Members to Weſtminſter, being the 14. of this inſtant month, after the City by land, and the Sailors by water had expreſſed their deare affection to the nobleſt of Aſſemblies, the Saylors comming off with good approbation, and having ſatisfaction in the buſineſſe they expected, departed to their ſeverall employments. Now ſix of them being in a ſhip-boat ſome league and a half within the mouth of the river of Thames, this Monſter appeared. At the firſt ſight they were much diſmayd, but afterward they, taking heart (ſome of them having beene at ſea-fights) made them the more adventurous: for the approach of this Monſter was very terrible; having broad fiery eyes, haire blacke and curled, his breſt armed with ſhining ſkales, ſo that by the reflection of the Sunne they became ſo blinde and dazled, that hee might have taken or ſlaine every man of them, he having a muſket in one hand, and a large paper in the other hand, which ſeemed to them a Petition.

By which poſture they did imagine that what he could not get by intreaty, he would by force or fear attaine, but after they had paſſed ſome words with this man-fiſh, he ſeemed rather an Angel ſent to guard this Kingdome, then an enemy to hurt us, for he ſhewed himſelfe ſo debonarie and full of curteſie as if he had beene tutored in the abſoluteſt Court in Chriſtendome; telling them he came inſpired by providence for the good and flouriſhing eſtate of this Kingdome, and the armed hand he advanced, was to put us in minde of our ſecurity, which hath beene the overthrow of the famous Monarchies, and in the other hand was the intelligence of all the dangers and plots of forraine Princes againſt us; they being illiterate men could not underſtand many other high expreſſions that hee pleaſed to deliver himſelfe in, which here is loſt becauſe they underſtood not bracagraphy, yet they humbly confeſſed their ignorance, and withall their occupation, and told him they were ſailors, but they humbly intreated him to keepe on his courſe towards London, with his Embaſſy to the Worthies of the land, for they did not thinke themſelves worthy to give him audience; he with a ſerene and cheerfull humility anſwered, we are all Courtiers to Neptune, and as the cavalleers to land Princes do ride great horſes to ſhew the generoſity of their ſpirit, and activity of body, ſo doe we mount the equatick beaſt of our elements, as the whale, ſword-fiſh and thraſher, which laſt are kept on purpoſe to ride our lea ſtages; at which word (by the motion of his lower parts) he ſprang from them with that violence, that no artificiall motion could bee ſo ſwift, for by ſome ſtrange fiſh he was carried under water which they could not perceive, he went from them about



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about a league, and returned in lesse then two minutes, telling them that our barbarey Roebuck and Hart were but meer Dromedaries to that hee rode on, and that within halfe an houre he could be in the remotest parts of the Ocean for the discovery of the most intricate designes that were in agitation: they being all of them in a deep silence, did not know what to say or thinke of him, whether he were a deity or a mortall creature, he perceived them astonished, gently lifted up himselfe, and with a smiling countenance, said he would deliver us something for our instruction, then he read to them out of his paper this newes.

That within six minutes he came from the narrow seas from the French fleet which was intended for Catalonia in the Spanish dominions, but they had rather come for little England if once these botches of distractions would run and burst into confusion.

He told them also of a letter he had to shew from the French Generall, to the King of France, of his hopes of the enterprise, with the doubts & encouragements, but because it was in the originall, and they no linguists, he spared his further relation till his comming to London.

That a mighty fleet of Turkes had lately met with a Spanish fleet that came for Ireland, which had beaten the Spaniard, and hindred them in that expedition; so that if a timely aid be sent, the kingdome may be easily recovered from those bloudy rebells.

Having ended this newes, he sprang from us as before, steering his course directly towards London.

A

[redacted]

*A Relation how* Sir Simon Heartly *with his Company, gave battell to a company of Rebels and slew* 500. *tooke* 4. *Colours, and routed* 1500. *more, this being performed on the* 6. *of Ian.* 1641.

ON our Epiphany last, being 6. Ian. 1641. Sir *Simon Heartley* with his company chasing a parcel of Rebells neare Monno, his spies giving him intelligence no aid could suddenly assist them, set upon the Rebells, where for foure houres there was a hot skirmish, and on both sides many men fell, but Sir *Simon* so bravely behaved himselfe that day, that his men plaid so hot on the Rebells having the advantage of the winde, that in the end they forced the Rebells to leave their workes, and at that time there was 500. of the Rebells slaine and taken, and about the number of 1500. utterly routed, also 4. of the Rebells Colours taken in this fight; this by the providence of God was performed to the damage of the Rebells, and the encouragement of the Protestants.

FINIS.

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